IOWA BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF:)	Case No. 15-183
Bradley E. Wickes,))	License No. 356969
Respondent.) }	FINAL ORDER
•)	

- 1. The Respondent holds a Class E Emergency License and Class A License (FOLDER # 356969) with endorsements to teach 5-12 Instructional Strategist I: Mild/Moderate; 5-12 All Social Studies; 5-12 American History; 5-12 Psychology; 5-12 World History. Respondent's licenses are expired.
- 2. During all material events of this case, Respondent was employed as a teacher at Camanche High School in Camanche, Iowa.
- 3. On December 9, 2015, the Board of Educational Examiners received a complaint against Respondent alleging various violations. On January 12, 2017, the Board found probable cause to proceed to hearing based upon the facts set forth herein and delineated in further detail within the complaint and investigation file compiled by the Board.
- 4. Investigation revealed that Respondent engaged in a romantic relationship with a student in 2015. In voluminous electronic communication, Respondent discussed with the student his sexual and romantic attraction to her, discussed her body, invited her to engage in sexual contact, and described his sexual activity with his wife and his marriage problems. He invited her to move out of her parents' home and enter into a relationship with him. Respondent met the student at Wal-Mart and hugged the student. Shortly after this meeting the relationship was discovered.
- 5. Respondent was convicted of sexual exploitation by a school employee, in violation of Iowa Code sections 709.15(3)(a)(1) and 709.15(5)(a). He was sentenced in October 2016 to ten years in prison pursuant to Iowa Code section 903B.2 and placed on the Sex Offender Registry.
- 6. The Board charged Respondent with having been convicted of a disqualifying crime, sexual exploitation by a school employee, in violation of 282 Iowa Administrative Code rule 25.3(1)(b)(1); soliciting, encouraging, or consummating a romantic or otherwise inappropriate relationship with a student, in violation of 282 Iowa Administrative Code rule 25.3(1)(e)(4); and, sexual

- exploitation of a minor, in violation of 282 Iowa Administrative Code rule 25.3(1)(d).
- 7. Pursuant to Board rule, a practitioner may voluntarily surrender the practitioner's license if the practitioner waives the right to hearing before the Board and notifies the Board of the intent to accept a permanent revocation of the practitioner's license. Upon receipt of a voluntary surrender, "[t]he Board may issue an order permanently revoking the practitioner license" 282 I.A.C. 11.4(6).
- 8. On June 5, 2017, the Respondent filed a Surrender of Practitioner License and Waiver of Formal Hearing form. The voluntary surrender was presented to and accepted by the Board at a meeting held on June 16, 2017.

ORDER

THEREFORE, the Board acknowledges the Respondent's voluntary surrender of his practitioner license and incorporates his action into this Order by attaching a copy of the surrender to this Order. In accordance with this filing, all licenses issued by the Board to the Respondent and his privilege to practice in Iowa are PERMANENTLY REVOKED with no possibility of reinstatement.

Dated this 16th day of June, 2017.

Dr. Ann Lebo, Executive Director On behalf of the Board

Copies to:

Bradley E. Wickes (electronic mail to Respondent attorney) RESPONDENT

Gerald L. (Jay) Hammond (electronic mail)
ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT

Jordan Esbrook (electronic mail) Assistant Attorney General ATTORNEY FOR STATE

RECEIVED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS

JUN 05 2017

STATE of IOWA BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS Grimes State Office Building Des Moines, IA 50319-0147

SURRENDER OF PRACTITIONER LICENSE AND WAIVER OF FORMAL HEARING Before the OWA BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS

IOWA BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS
I, Bradley & Wickes swear and affirm under oath:
that I currently hold a valid or expired Iowa practitioner's license issued by the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners;
that I have been informed of and understand the nature of proceedings before the Board and have received a copy of the rules governing Board proceedings (282 Iowa Administrative Code chapters 11, and 25);
that I am aware that the Board has legal authority to sanction me as a licensed individual only following a formal allegation of conduct violating Board rules, an investigation into the allegation of misconduct, and a hearing at which I have a right to be heard, present evidence, and to contest all allegations against me;
that I understand that by waiving my right to formal accusation and hearing, I give up my right to challenge the allegations against me, and that as a consequence of surrendering my license my privilege to teach, administer, and/or coach in Iowa will be permanently revoked with no possibility of reinstatement;
that I understand that if the Board accepts my license surrender an Order permanently revoking my license will be issued and the Board will notify NASDTEC ("The National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification") National Clearinghouse that my license has been revoked and that other state teacher licensing boards will have access to this information.
HAVING ACKNOWLEDGED MY RIGHTS AS OUTLINED ABOVE, I hereby formally waive my right to a formal accusation and hearing before the Board and request that my license(s) to teach, administer and/or coach in Iowa be revoked. I affirm that my decision is made voluntarily and knowingly.
Fractitioner signature 5-/8-17 Date
Notary Public in and for the State of Iowa (Notary seal applied) S-18-17 Date

CYNIHIA L. 1 COMMISSION NUMBER 767743

BEFORE THE BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF IOWA

In the matter of)	Case No. 15-183 Folder No. 356969
Bradley E. Wickes,	j	00 7 7
Respondent.)	NOTICE OF HEARING AND STATEMENT OF CHARGES

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners, exercising the jurisdiction conferred by Iowa Code chapters 17A and 272, has found probable cause of a violation of Board rules and ordered this matter scheduled for hearing.

A. TIME, PLACE AND NATURE OF HEARING

- 1. Hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 20, 2017, before Administrative Law Judge Margaret LaMarche, acting on behalf of the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners. The hearing shall begin at 1:00 p.m. in Department of Inspections and Appeals, Wallace State Office Bldg, Third Floor, 502 E. 9th Street (East 9th and Grand Avenue), Des Moines, Iowa. You should report to the third floor Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals' (DIA) receptionist prior to 1:00 p.m. to obtain the room assignment.
- 2. <u>Answer</u>. Within twenty (20) days of the date of service of this Notice of Hearing, you are required to file an Answer specifically admitting, denying, or otherwise responding to the allegations included within the Factual Allegations. In that Answer, you should also state whether you will require an adjustment of the date and time of the hearing. A copy of the Answer shall be provided by the Respondent to the Assistant Attorney General identified below.
- 3. Hearing Procedures. The procedural rules governing the conduct of the hearing are found at 282 Iowa Administrative Code chapter 11. At hearing, you may appear personally or be represented by an attorney, at your own expense. You will be allowed the opportunity to respond to the charges against you. Each party will be allowed to testify, examine and cross-examine witnesses, and present documentary evidence. If you fail to appear at the hearing, the Board may enter a default decision or proceed with the hearing and render a decision in your absence. If you need to request an alternative time or date for hearing, you must comply with the requirements of 282 Iowa Administrative Code rule 11.19.

If either party wishes to present telephonic testimony or to participate in the hearing by telephone, arrangements must be made at least ten (10) days in advance of the hearing date by filing a written request with the presiding Administrative Law Judge, Department of Inspections and Appeals, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319, or by faxing a written request to (515) 281-4477. A copy of the

request for telephonic testimony must be served on the Board and all parties. Any resistance to the request for telephone testimony must be filed within five (5) days of service of the notice.

- 4. <u>Pre-hearing conference</u>. Either party may request a pre-hearing conference to discuss evidentiary issues related to the hearing. The Board rules regarding pre-hearing conferences are found in 282 Iowa Administrative Code rule 11.18.
- 5. <u>Prosecution</u>. The office of the Attorney General is responsible for prosecuting and representing the public interest (the State) in this proceeding. Pleadings shall be filed with the Board and copies should be provided to counsel for the State at the following address:

Jordan Esbrook Assistant Attorney General Iowa Department of Justice 2nd Floor, Hoover State Office Building Des Moines, Iowa 50319 Telephone (515) 281-8159

6. <u>Communications</u>. You may not contact Board members by phone, letter, facsimile, e-mail, or in person about this Notice of Hearing or the pending charges. Board members may only receive information about the case when all parties have notice and an opportunity to participate, such as at the hearing or in pleadings you file with the Board office and serve on all parties in the case. You should direct any questions about this proceeding to Dr. Ann Lebo, the Board's Executive Director, at (515) 281-5849 or to Assistant Attorney General Esbrook at (515) 281-8159.

B. SECTIONS OF STATUES AND RULES INVOLVED

Count I

7. Respondent is charged with having been convicted of a disqualifying crime, sexual exploitation by a school employee, in violation of 282 Iowa Administrative Code rule 25.3(1)(b)(1).

Count II

8. Respondent is charged with soliciting, encouraging, or consummating a romantic or otherwise inappropriate relationship with a student, in violation of 282 Iowa Administrative Code rule 25.3(1)(e)(4).

Count III

9. Respondent is charged with sexual exploitation of a minor, in violation of 282 Iowa Administrative Code rule 25.3(1)(d).

Count IV

10. Respondent is charged with failing to make reasonable effort to protect the health and safety of a student, in violation of 282 Iowa Administrative Code 25.3(6)(c).

C. JURISDICTION AND LEGAL AUTHORITY

11. The Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to Iowa Code chapters 17A and 272. If any of the allegations against you are proven at hearing, the Board has authority to take disciplinary action against you under Iowa Code chapters 17A and 272, and 282 Iowa Administrative Code chapter 11.

D. FACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- 12. Respondent holds an Class E Emergency License and a Class A License (FOLDER # 356969) with the following endorsements: 5-12 All Social Sciences; 5-12 American History; 5-12 Psychology; 5-12 World History; 5-12 Instructional Strategist I: Mild/Moderate.
- 13. During all material events of this case, Respondent was employed as a teacher at Camanche High School in Camanche, Iowa.
- 14. On December 9, 2015, the Board of Educational Examiners received a complaint against Respondent alleging various violations. On January 12, 2017, the Board found probable cause to proceed to hearing based upon the facts set forth herein and delineated in further detail within the complaint and investigation file compiled by the Board.
- 15. Investigation revealed that Respondent engaged in a romantic relationship with a student in 2015. In voluminous electronic communication, Respondent discussed with the student his sexual and romantic attraction to her, discussed her body, invited her to engage in sexual contact, and described his sexual activity with his wife and his marriage problems. He invited her to move out of her parents' home and enter into a relationship with him. Respondent met the student at Wal-Mart and hugged the student. Shortly after this meeting the relationship was discovered.
- 16. Respondent was convicted of sexual exploitation by a school employee, in violation of Iowa Code sections 709.15(3)(a)(1) and 709.15(5)(a). He was sentenced in October 2016 to ten years in prison pursuant to Iowa Code section 903B.2 and placed on the Sex Offender Registry.

E. SETTLEMENT

17. This matter may be resolved by surrender of your license or an agreement to accept a lesser sanction. The procedural rules governing the Board's settlement process

are found at 282 Iowa Administrative Code rule 11.4(6). If you are interested in pursuing settlement of this matter, please contact the Assistant Attorney General identified in Section A, above.

Dated this 4th day of April, 2017.

Dr. Ann Lebo, Executive Director Iowa Board of Educational Examiners

Copies to:

Bradley E.Wickes (first-class mail and restricted certified mail) RESPONDENT

Jay Hammond (electronic mail) ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT

Jordan Esbrook (electronic mail) ATTORNEY FOR STATE